

Reconvening of Governmental Leaders Regarding Washington Water Quality Standards

Dear Washington Tribal Leaders,

On behalf of EPA Regional Administrator Dennis McLerran, I am pleased to invite Washington Tribal Leaders (and key staff as appropriate), the Governor's office and Washington State Department of Ecology to a meeting to advance the leadership process in support of the timely adoption of revised Washington's water quality criteria for human health, incorporating a more protective fish consumption rate.

The meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2013, 1pm to 3:30pm and will be convened by EPA Regional Administrator McLerran in Seattle.

Regional Administrator McLerran continues to encourage constructive communication and collaboration among Tribal Leaders and WA Department of Ecology around efforts to establish human health criteria to protect all Washington residents. The first Leadership meeting at Nisqually demonstrated the commitment by Dennis McLerran, Tribal Leaders, and Director Bellon to work together.

Mr McLerran places effective and meaningful Tribal relations among his highest priorities, and he respects the extensive efforts by Tribal Leaders to protect sustainable resources, subsistence life ways and treaty rights here in the Northwest. In light of the notable tribal work to protect and restore clean water and fishery resources in Pacific Northwest and the vital role leaders play together in ensuring continued progress is made, I encourage you attend.

Topics of discussion will be the following:

- Washington Water Quality Standards rule making process and timeline
- Administrator McLerran and EPA share updates on their efforts
- Representatives and staff to the Governor's Informal Advisory Group report on progress
- Tribal Leaders/Governor's Office (invited)/Dept. of Ecology/EPA leadership dialogue

Please RSVP by responding to this email.

Who: Washington Tribal Leaders and the Fish Consumption Leadership Group

When: April 18, 1 – 3:30pm

Where: EPA, Park Place Building, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA.

For any questions contact my office at 206-553-2871 or email woods.jim@epa.gov.

*Jim Woods
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**Draft Agenda
Government Leadership Group
April 18, 2014; 1 pm to 3 pm
EPA Region 10 Conference Room; Seattle, WA**

**Fish Consumption Rates and WA Water Quality Standards Rule-Making
U.S. EPA and WA Tribal Leaders
Invited: WA Department of Ecology; Governor's Office**

- 1:00** **Welcome and Introductions:**
Dennis McLerran, EPA Regional Administrator
Brian Cladoosby, Swinomish Chairman, AWT President
Tribal Leadership Oversight Group
Washington Department of Ecology Representative (tentative)
Governor's Representative (tentative)
- 1:30** **Discussion on timeline for revised water quality standards and fish consumption rates in Washington State.**

Review the status of the timeline for the issuance of the State's draft rule for revised Water Quality Standards. What is the new timeline for draft and final rule making? What obstacles remain?
- 2:00** **Substantive issues of the revised water quality standards: Will the human health criteria achieve the goal of adopting water quality standards that protect human health?**

Leaders dialogue on key issues of concern, including FCR, cancer risk, and other human health criteria, and achieving timely implementation once new standards are adopted. What else can the tribes and EPA do to achieve a protective rule?
- 2:45** **Next steps for Leadership: What can each government do to work together to achieve success in a timely way?**

What actions can be taken to mutually support the work that is underway by Administrator McLerran, Director Bellon, Tribal Leaders, and the Governor?
- 3:15** **Closing Remarks**
- 3:30** **Adjourn**